24th March 1961]

State Government Offices

* 193 *Q.*—SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to take over the buildings within the Fort St. George to house th eState Government offices; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) There is no proposal to take over the buildings within the Fort St. George to house the State Government offices. There is, however, a proposal to acquire about 2½ acres of land on the eastern side of the King's Barracks' (north-western side of the Secretariat Buildings) and the buildings standing thereon for securing additional accommodation for the Secretariat.

(*b*) The matter is under correspondence with the Military Authorities.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : May I know whether the Government will locate the new Legislative Council chamber there when they get these lands?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It is an ' if ' question. Let us get the lands first and we will consider the question.

Anglo-Indian Schools

* 194 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the recommendations of the Pay Commission as accepted by the Government will also apply to Anglo-Indian schools in the State; and

(*b*) if so, whether any orders have been issued in this regard?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The matter is under consideration.

Subramanyaswami temple, Tiruchendur

* 195 *Q.*—SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER (on behalf of SRI S. T. ADITYAN) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a gold chain with different kinds of stones has been presented to the Deity of Tiruchendur Subramanyaswami temple, Tiruchendur, on the 8th day festival of Avani, 1960;

(*b*) whether the authorities concerned have refused or refrained from issuing a receipt for the same;

(*c*) whether the same has been brought into the accounts of the temple; and

(*d*) whether the Government have received any complaint in respect of this and, if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) A gold chain with stone pendant was offered on the 8th day of Avani Festival in the year 1959 and not in Avani 1960.

(*b*) No, Sir.

(*c*) Yes, Sir.

(*d*) No, Sir.

Fire accidents

* 196 *Q*.—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state the number of fire accidents caused by the firing of crackers during Deepavali, 1960, in the State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Fifty-one fire accidents occurred in the districts and in the city due to the firing of crackers on 18th, 19th and 20th October 1960 and were attended to by the Fire Service Department.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know how many were prosecuted for using the Atom Bomb crackers and how many were awarded punishment?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : There is no question of prosecution. 'Atom bombs' were banned, and these were accidents caused by the ordinary fireworks.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.

[*Note*.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—POINT OF ORDER.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Sir, on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know what the point of order is about. The hon. Member has told me about it. But we are not officially aware of anything that is going on in the other House particularly during the current session. Nothing can be said now with reference to what has happened there.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : I shall state what I have to say. Let the Hon. Minister reply at his own convenience.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member must know the parliamentary rules of procedure. I happened to read "May's Parliamentary Practice" even this morning.